

CPW

503.28546CV9



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: M. KOJIMA, et al.
Application No: 09/917,912
Filed: July 31, 2001
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING
SAMPLES
Group: 1756
Examiner: M. Angebrannndt

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97 AND § 1.98**

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 8, 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find a copy of a document to be considered by the Examiner during further examination of the above-identified application. Also enclosed is a Form, substantially equivalent to Form PTO-1449, listing the enclosed document.

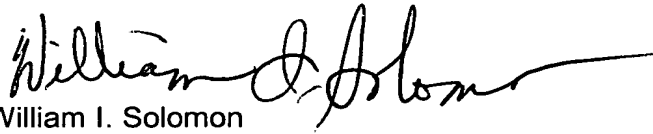
This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to a first Office Action on the merits after the filing of a Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal in the above-identified application. Accordingly, requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97(b) are clearly satisfied.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97 and § 1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with the enclosed document. Accordingly, consideration of the enclosed document, upon further examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 503.28546CV9), and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William I. Solomon", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/917,912
Filing Date	7/31/2001
First Named Inventor	M. Kojima, et al.
Art Unit	1756
Examiner Name	M. Angebrannt
Attorney Docket Number	503.28546CV9

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)				
		US- 4,923,584		5/08/1990	Bramhall, Jr., et al.	
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

PTO/SB/08B (04-03)

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing the this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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